The horizon and its charges in the first order gravity

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Abstract

In this work the algebra of charges of diffeomorphisms at the horizon of generic black holes is analyzed within first order gravity. This algebra reproduces the algebra of diffeomorphisms at the horizon, (*Diff* (S^1)), without a central extension.

1 Introduction

In theory of fields the boundary conditions are essential not only to solve the differential equations that arise from the action principle but also to define the intrinsic properties of a theory. Actually, the action principle is not entirely defined by the bulk terms, it also needs boundary terms (see for instance [1]). These ideas foresee that in a proper quantum gravity theory boundary conditions should play an essential role.

In this line of arguments the formulation of the black holes entropy from first principles, as elusive as it has been, for sure is to be related with the problem of boundary conditions (see for instance [2, 3]). This have been actually proven in $2+1$ dimensions where the entropy of the BTZ black hole [4] can be computed in terms of the central extension of the algebra of Hamiltonian charges of diffeomorphisms which preserve the asymptotical boundary conditions [5]. Unfortunately the extension to higher dimensions of those ideas can not be done verbatim, for instance, the algebra of the asymptotical symmetries of the four dimensional asymptotical anti de Sitter spaces, which were studied in [6], is $SO(3,2)$, does not admit a non trivial central extension. Thus at least a prescription for entropy in terms of a central extension concerning infinity does not exist in any dimension.

In black holes physics the horizon can be regarded as an internal boundary, idea which for instance allows to define the black holes thermodynamics in terms of Nöther charges [7]. In this line in [8, 9] was argued that considering the horizon as an internal boundary allows to attain an expression for the entropy of a black hole in terms of the degeneracy of the diffeomorphisms preserving certain boundary conditions at the horizon. An important issue, originally argued in [2], corresponds to restrict the discussion to the plane (t, r) regardless the other directions. Obviously this result should be valid in any dimension without further discussion. Even though some flaws have been reported in original prescription [10], it seems that the idea, properly realized, actually could represent a worth approach to the problem [11, 12]. In a similar approach, but considering an induced conformal field theory near the horizon, in [13] was found out an expression for the entropy in terms of a central extension of a Virasoro algebra.

The previous discussion is valid within the metric formalism of gravity, however gravity has an alternative formulation, which is necessary when fermions are involved. This formulation is called the first order formalism and is defined as follows: given a manifold $\mathcal{M}$ there exists an orthonormal local basis of the (co)tangent space e^a and a spin connection ω^{ab} which defines local Lorentz derivatives (see for instance [14]). In this formalism the four dimensional Einstein Hilbert action with a negative cosmological constant

reads

$$I_{EH} = \frac{1}{32\pi G} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R^{ab} \wedge e^c \wedge e^d \epsilon_{abcd} + \frac{1}{2l^2} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge e^c \wedge e^d \epsilon_{abcd}, \tag{1}$$

where $R^{ab} = d\omega^{ab} + \omega^a_c \omega^{cb}$ is the curvature two form which contains the Riemann tensor as $R^{ab} = \frac{1}{2} R^{ab}_{cd} e^c \wedge e^d$, $\Lambda = -3l^{-2}$, being Λ the cosmological constant. From now on the differential forms language will be assumed, thus $\wedge$ symbols are implicit.

The treatment of the horizon of a black hole in first order formalism can be cumbersome. The essence of having a basis for the tangent space of a manifold specifically needs of a global definition, otherwise topological considerations arise (See for instance [15, 16]). Particularly if a global definition for the tangent space is unattainable one should consider more than one fiber bundle and thus matching conditions between them.

In this work only Euclidean manifolds are considered. In this case a black hole has no interior region beyond the horizon, and it becomes the center of an Euclidean manifold. Also only suitable for an Euclidean geometry vielbein's are considered, namely *time* oriented ones [1]. However in general any of these vielbeins become multivalued at the horizon, as it happens in the center of any polar system of coordinates. Because of that in the first order formalism one option it is to exclude the horizon, *i.e.*, to excise the point that it represents by introducing a boundary around that point. This a way to circumvent the definition of more than a single fiber bundle for the tangent space.

For a stationary spacetime the event horizon is a Killing horizon and thus it can be defined as the hypersurface where the time like Killing vector, η, becomes light like. Rephrasing the last paragraph, in terms of the vielbein the horizon is the hypersurface where $e^a(\eta) = 0$ is satisfied, yielding an undefined vierbein at the horizon. Because of that the horizon must be removed out of the manifold, and thus it is introduced an internal boundary.

In this work the boundary conditions for the horizon an Euclidean black hole in four dimensions within the first order formalism of gravity will be analyzed. Additionally, as it will be shown in this work, it occurs that the temperature can be read from the relation $\omega^{01}(\eta) \propto \beta^{-1}$ at the horizon [17] expressing that these boundary condition defines the canonical ensemble. Essentially, it will be studied the diffeomorphisms which preserve a certain set of boundary conditions at the horizon of a static black hole and the algebra they satisfy. Particularly it will discussed a possible central extension of that algebra. The spacetime to be discussed in this work is given by $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R} \times \Sigma$ where Σ corresponds to a 3-dimensional spacelike hypersurface and $\mathbb{R}$ stands for the time direction. The spacetime possesses an asymptotical locally AdS region, which defines the boundary $\mathbb{R} \times \partial\Sigma_\infty$, and a horizon. As a matter of notation the boundary involving the horizon will be denoted as $\mathbb{R} \times \partial\Sigma_H$ thus one has that $\partial\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R} \times \partial\Sigma_\infty \cup \mathbb{R} \times \partial\Sigma_H$.

2 First order formulation and boundary conditions

Considering the problem of conserved charges in an asymptotically locally AdS (ALAdS) space, an improved sound action principle for first order gravity was proposed in [18]. The action principle for (1) is based on the fact that for any ALAdS space the Riemann tensor behaves asymptotically as

$$R^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{l^2} \delta^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta}. \tag{2}$$

Therefore if Eq.(1) is supplemented by the four dimensional Euler density[2],

$$\mathcal{E}_4 = \frac{l^2}{64\pi G} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R^{ab} \wedge R^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}, \tag{3}$$

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[1]That means that one of the orthonormal vectors is connected with the Wick rotated time coordinate

[2]Euler density is a closed form, thus its inclusion can not alter the field equations.

then variation of the new action $I = I_{EH} + \mathcal{E}_4$ is on shell a boundary term which reads

$$\delta I|_{\text{On shell}} = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \Theta(\delta\omega^{ab}, e^c) = \frac{l^2}{32\pi G} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \delta\omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}, \tag{4}$$

where $\bar{R}^{cd} = R^{cd} + l^{-2}e^c e^d$. Using this result it is straightforward to prove that there is no contribution from the asymptotic region $\mathbb{R} \times \partial\Sigma_\infty$ provided Eq.(2). This last condition permits that the mass and angular momentum of the Kerr-Neumann-AdS black hole to be computed as the Nöther charges associated with the time and axial symmetries, respectively [18].

To consider the horizon as a boundary implies to set boundary conditions on it. For the action $I = I_{EH} + \mathcal{E}_4$ to fix the spin connection on Σ_H is an adequate boundary condition. This was done in [17] demonstrating that the thermodynamics can be obtained following this approach. In this work that condition will be relaxed.

3   Local transformations

A theory of gravity as (1) is invariant under local Lorentz transformations and under diffeomorphisms in the bulk, however the global analysis considering the boundary is subtler. The transformations that preserve the boundary conditions, as occurs in $2 + 1$ dimensions, could give rise on the border to dynamical degrees of freedom, even though in the bulk they represent *gauge* transformations merely.

Given that the vielbein is a basis, then any transformation of it can be written as a combination of the basis itself, i.e., $\delta_0 e^a = \Delta^a_{0\ b} e^b$ where Δ_0^{ab} depends on the transformation to be considered. Under a local Lorentz transformation the fields change as

$$\delta_0 e^a = \lambda^a_{\ b} e^b \text{ and } \delta_0 \omega^{ab} = -D(\lambda^{ab}),$$

where D is the Lorentz derivative and λ^{ab} is a 0-form antisymmetric Lorentz tensor, *i.e.*, it satisfies $\lambda^{ab} = -\lambda^{ba}$.

On the other hand, the transformation under diffeomorphisms is defined by a vector ξ as $x' = x + \xi$. For any field A it can be written in terms of a Lie derivative along ξ as $\delta_0 A = -\mathcal{L}_\xi A$. For the fields (ω^{ab}, e^a)

$$\delta_0 e^a = -\mathcal{L}_\xi e^a = \Delta^a_{\ b} e^b$$
$$\delta_0 \omega^{ab} = -\mathcal{L}_\xi \omega^{ab} = -D(I_\xi \omega^{ab}) - I_\xi R^{ab}$$

where $\Delta^{ab} = I_\xi \omega^{ab} - e^{a\mu} e^{b\nu} (\nabla_\mu \xi_\nu)$. If ξ is a Killing vector then Δ^{ab} is antisymmetric and $\delta_0 \omega^{ab} = -\mathcal{L}_\xi \omega^{ab} = -D(\Delta^{ab})$, therefore Δ^{ab} can be regarded as the parameter of a local Lorentz transformation.

4   Horizon boundary condition

In order to boundary term Eq.(4) vanish, given that infinity has no contribution, one requires that

$$\delta_0 \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}|_{\mathbb{R}\times\partial\Sigma_H} \sim 0. \tag{5}$$

This condition in principle restricts the variation of the spin connection. The two transformation above, Lorentz and diffeomorphisms, differ in this case. Meanwhile for the Lorentz transformations the boundary term Eq.(5) reads

$$D(\lambda^{ab})\bar{R}^{cd}\epsilon_{abcd} = d(\lambda^{ab}\bar{R}^{cd}\epsilon_{abcd}), \tag{6}$$

which vanishes upon integration, for diffeomorphisms the corresponding condition

$$\mathcal{L}_\xi \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}|_{R\times\partial\Sigma_H} \sim 0, \tag{7}$$

can not be trivially satisfied and restricts the form of the vector fields ξ. Because any Killing vector defines a Lorentz transformation and so satisfies the boundary condition (5) they must be excluded from the discussion.

5   Nöther charges and central extension

As mentioned above the variations under diffeomorphisms can be described in terms of Lie derivatives, which together with the Nöther method imply that the current $*\mathbf{J}_\xi = \Theta + I_\xi \mathbf{L}$ satisfies $d(*\mathbf{J}_\xi) = 0$. For the action $I = I_{EH} + \mathcal{E}_4$, its current reads

$$* \, \mathbf{J}_\xi = -d(I_\xi \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}). \tag{8}$$

From this expression a *conserved charge* can be defined as the integral of (8) on a spacelike surface Σ. However, only if ξ is a global symmetry of the solution, that is if ξ is a Killing vector, the charges may represent mass or angular momentum.

The formal connection of these Nöther charges and the Hamiltonian charges was analyzed in [17], proving that they indeed agree.

The variation of the Hamiltonian charges associated with diffeomorphisms can be obtained using the covariant phase space method [19], thus

$$\delta Q_\xi = \int_{\partial \Sigma} -\delta(I_\xi \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}) + I_\xi(\delta \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}).$$

At the horizon, $\partial \Sigma_H$, the second term vanishes provided Eq.(5) and thus the charge can be integrated as

$$Q_\xi = - \int_{\partial \Sigma_H} I_\xi \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}.$$

Now that the Hamiltonian charge has been established the variation under another diffeomorphisms, defined by η, which satisfies the boundary conditions (7) can be computed. Additionally to the condition Eq.(7) it is necessary to impose that the Lie bracket of two vectors, which satisfy the boundary conditions, satisfies the boundary conditions. Recalling that $\delta_\eta = -\mathcal{L}_\eta$ the variation reads

$$\delta_\eta Q_\xi = \int_{\partial \Sigma} \mathcal{L}_\eta (I_\xi \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}) - I_\xi (\mathcal{L}_\eta \omega^{ab} \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}). \tag{9}$$

Now, the variation can be expressed as $\delta_\eta Q_\xi = Q_{[\eta,\xi]} + K(\eta,\xi)$ with

$$K(\eta,\xi) = \int_{\partial \Sigma_H} (I_\xi \omega^{ab} \mathcal{L}_\eta \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}) + (\mathcal{L}_\eta \omega^{ab} I_\xi \bar{R}^{cd} \epsilon_{abcd}), \tag{10}$$

which represents an extension of the algebra of diffeomorphisms.

6   Topological black holes

A feature of a negative cosmological constant is that besides the asymptotical AdS spaces it also allows the existence of asymptotically **locally** AdS spaces (ALAdS), and among them the usually called topological black holes (see for instance [20, 21]). Topological black holes exist in any dimensions higher than 3 and as well as for many theories of gravity. They are defined in terms of the vielbein

$$e^0 = f(r)dt, \; e^1 = \frac{1}{f(r)}dr, \; e^m = r\tilde{e}^m, \tag{11}$$

and its associated torsion free connection

$$\omega^{01} = \frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dr}f(r)^2 dt, \;\; \omega^{1m} = f(r)\tilde{e}^m, \;\; \omega^{mn} = \tilde{\omega}^{mn},\tag{12}$$

where $\tilde{e}^m = \tilde{e}_i^m(y)dy^i$ and $\tilde{\omega}^{mn}$ are a vielbein and its associated torsion free connection on the transverse section with $m = 2 \ldots d-1$. The y^i's are an adequate set of coordinates. For instance in four dimensions $f(r)^2 = \gamma + l^{-2}r^2 - 2m/r$ and $\tilde{R}^{mn} = \gamma e^m e^n$.

For the geometry described by Eqs(11,12) the Killing vector which defines the event horizon can be written as $\eta = \partial_t$ and thus $e^a(\eta) = f(r)\delta_0^a$. Consequently the asymptotical behavior near the horizon can be defined in terms of the function $f(r)$. It must be stressed that because $e^a(\eta)$ has a geometrical origin being a scalar under diffeomorphisms its definition is coordinate independent. Actually since it vanishes at the horizon one can regard the horizon as a fixed point, elsewhere however the expression of $e^a(\eta)$ can differ depending on the coordinate system, although its geometrical interpretation remains the same. It is worth noting that the condition near the horizon $e^a(\eta) \to 0$ is satisfied by every *time* oriented vierbein on an Euclidean manifold, however since there is no other sensible vierbein on an Euclidean manifold that is completely general. Let us recall, however, that the expression is to be understood in a convergence process, namely that $e^a(\eta) \to 0$ but never really becomes null since the horizon, $r = r_+$, is not on the manifold.

To pursue in the discussion it is necessary to perform a Wick rotation on time, *i.e.*, to replace the t by $-i\tau$ where $\tau = [0, \beta^{-1}[$ and β is the inverse of the temperature of the black hole. Considering the ansatz for vector fields

$$\xi = \xi^\tau(\tau, r)\partial_\tau + \xi^r(\tau, r)\partial_r,\tag{13}$$

the non trivially null Lie derivatives $\mathcal{L}_\xi \omega^{ab}$ read

$$\mathcal{L}_\xi \omega^{01} = \frac{1}{2}\left[\frac{d^2 f(r)^2}{dr^2}\xi^r + \frac{df(r)^2}{dr}\frac{\partial\xi^\tau}{\partial\tau}\right]d\tau + \frac{1}{2}\frac{df(r)^2}{dr}\frac{\partial\xi^\tau}{\partial r}dr$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\xi \omega^{1m} = \xi^r \frac{df(r)}{dr}\tilde{e}^m.$$

Therefore the necessary components of $\bar{R}^{ab}$ are

$$\bar{R}^{23} = \left(\frac{r^2}{l^2} + \gamma - f(r)^2\right)\tilde{e}^2 \tilde{e}^3$$

$$\bar{R}^{0n} = \left(\frac{r}{l^2} - \frac{1}{2}\frac{df(r)^2}{dr}\right)f(r)dt\,\tilde{e}^n.$$

Imposing that the component of ξ converge to a finite -asymptotical- value as it *approaches* the horizon [22] allows to expand ξ as

$$\xi^\tau(\tau, r) \approx \xi_0^\tau(\tau) + \xi_1^\tau(\tau)(r - r_+) + O((r - r_+)^2),$$
$$\xi^r(\tau, r) \approx \xi_0^r(\tau) + \xi_1^r(\tau)(r - r_+) + O((r - r_+)^2),$$

and requiring additionally that the Lie bracket of two vector fields preserves the boundary conditions (7) yields that ξ reads

$$\xi \approx h(\tau)\partial_\tau + (A + B(r - r_+))\frac{dh(\tau)}{d\tau}\partial_r + O((r - r_+)^2),$$

where $h(\tau)$ is an arbitrary function of τ and A, B are functions of β. Now, given that τ is a periodic variable then $h(\tau)$ can be expanded in terms of a Fourier basis as

$$h(\tau) = \sum_n h_n \exp(2i\pi\beta n\tau),$$

and therefore ξ can be expanded as $\xi \approx \sum_n h_n \xi_n$ with

$$\xi_n = \exp(2i\pi\beta n\tau)\left[\partial_\tau + 2i\pi\beta n\left(A + B(r - r_+)\right)\partial_r\right]. \tag{14}$$

Now, it is direct to show that the vectors $\hat{\xi}_n = \frac{1}{2i\pi\beta}\xi_n$ satisfy the Virasoro algebra

$$[\hat{\xi}_m, \hat{\xi}_n] = (m - n)\hat{\xi}_{m+n}.$$

Starting with this result one can compute the extension of the algebra of diffeomorphisms (10), in this case for two of the vector of the form (14), namely $K(\hat{\xi}_m, \hat{\xi}_n)$. It can be readily shown that

$$K(\hat{\xi}_m, \hat{\xi}_n) = 0 \text{ for any value } m, n,$$

which implies that in this case no central extension exists.

7   Discussion

In this work was analyzed the consequences of a particular set of boundary conditions for the first order action of gravity $I = I_{EH} + \mathcal{E}_4$. This analysis naturally leads to study the algebra of charges of diffeomorphisms on the horizon. The boundary conditions (7) are enough to determine the form of the smooth vectors (14) which preserve them. These vectors satisfy the algebra of Virasoro ($Diff$ (S^1)) as expected, however the algebra of charges of diffeomorphisms reproduce the algebras of the vector fields without any central extension. This result does not yield an expression for the entropy in term of the central extension as was done in [8, 11, 12]. One possible obstruction to a non trivial central extension may be to have considered only smooth vector fields. As argued in [11] if non smooth vectors were considered a non trivial central extension could have attained and thus a prescription for the entropy. However that idea needs, in the case for metric formalism, the use of *stretched horizons*, whose development in this case for first order gravity, is beyond the scope of this work. Nonetheless that seems to be an appealing direction to continue with this investigation.

8   Acknowledgments

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[22] Since the horizon was removed $r = r_+$ represents a value of the radial coordinate which can never be attained, *i.e.* the radial coordinate satisfies $r > r_+$. This is not usual, it also occurs at the radial asymptotical region, namely *infinity*, where the mathematically notation $r = \infty$ expresses the same idea. Let us recall that $r = \infty$ actually does not exist, and yet one computes asymptotical expressions and limits at the asymptotical region unambiguously. Analogously in region near the horizon, where $r \to r_+$, one can define limits (by the right) as well as asymptotical expressions unambiguously.